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Message Text

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44
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00

FCC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 OC-05 COME-00 BIB-01 ACDA-05

DODE-00 PM-03 L-02 NASA-01 NSC-05 OES-03 CG-00 DOTE-00

H-01 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /089 W
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R 111705Z FEB 75
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5210
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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DEPT PLEASE PASS MARAD, FCC, OTP, COAST GUARD, NASA
FROM O'NEILL

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETEL, TSPA
SUBJECT: MARITIME SATELLITE TALKS IN DENMARK

1. DANES OPENED CONVERSATIONS BY EXPRESSING INTEREST IN HEARING NOT ONLY OUR VIEWS BUT THOSE THAT WE HAD ENCOUNTERED IN VISITING OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, AND IN PARTICULAR SOVIET VIEWS. THEY WERE ALREADY AWARE OF US INTEREST IN TWO AGREEMENT FORMULA (HAVING BEEN INFORMED NOT ONLY BY AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN BUT IT APPEARED CLEAR THAT THEY HAD ALSO BEEN IN TOUCH WITH SCANDINAVIAN NEIGHBORS, PROBABLY THE NORWEGIANS IN PARTICULARL). US EXPLAINED US DESIGNATED ENTITY REQUIREMENT AND NEED FOR TWO AGREEMENTS, BUT DANES IMMEDIATELY COUNTERED THAT EASIER SOLUTION WOULD BE TO AMEND ARTICLE 6 OF POE CONVENTION, AND THAT US SHOULD SUG-GEST TEXTUAL CHANGES (HERE THEY SOUNDED PARTICULARLY LIKE NORWEGIANS). THEY EXPRESSED "ASTONISHMENT" AT US POSITION, STATING THAT POE MAJORITY HAD AGREED ON DRAFT CONVENTION. THEY ALSO REFERRED TO DIFFERENCE WITH INTELSAT ARRANGEMENT,
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AND SPECIFICALLY THAT IN INMARSAT THERE WAS A GOVERNMENT COM-

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MITMENT ON SAFETY/DISTRESS.

2. US COUNTERED WITH REPETITION OF ARGUMENT ON US NEED FOR TWO AGREEMENTS, AND THEN ASKED WHAT DANES EXPECTED FROM LONDON CONFERENCE, POINTING OUT THAT US FELT REALISTIC EXPECTATION IS AGREEMENT ON INMARSAT ESTABLISHEMENT AND SETTING UP OF WORKING PARTIES OR PREPARATORY COMMITTEES LOOKING TOWARD A SECOND CONFERENCE IN 12 TO 18 MONTHS. DANES REPLIED THAT THEY DOUBTED THAT 2 1/2 WEEKS AT LONDON WOULD BE SUFFICIENT TO ACCOMPLISH EVERYTHING, BUT HOPED THAT LONDON CONFERENCE WOULD AGREE ON INMARSAT ESTABLISHMENT, AND SET FORTH SPECIFICALLY WHAT THE SYSTEM'S RESPONSIBILITIES SHOULD ENTAIL SUCH AS PROVISION FOR SAFETY/DISTRESS.

3. US TEAM AGREED THAT INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT SHOULD INCLUDE SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES IN SAFETY-DISTRESS AREA WHICH IS CLEARLY OF GOD CONCERN. IN REGARD TO US DESIGNATED ENTITY US MADE CLEAR THAT USG COULD NOT GUARANTEE FINANCIAL COMMITMENT OF DESIGNATED ENTITY, BUT THAT THERE WOULD BE CLOSE COORDINATION BETWEEN ENTITY AND USG. US TEAM ALSO GAVE RUNDOWN ON GENERAL ATTITUDE OF US COMMUNICATIONS CARRIERS TOWARD INMARSAT.

4. DANES MADE CLEAR THEY THINK IT IMPORTANT THAT US BE A MEMBER OF INMARSAT AND THEY THEY ACCEPT THAT US DESIGNATED ENTITY WOULD BE A RESPONSIBLE ONE. DANES DID SAY THAT THEY EXPECTED RATES WOULD GO UP OVER COMING YEARS; THAT INTELSAT IS A PROFITABLE ORGANIZATION, AND THAT ONE MUST KEEP IN MIND THAT THE SHORT-TERM PROFIT POTENTIAL OF INMARSAT WAS OF AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT NATURE. THIS LED TO DANES ASKING ABOUT SOVIET ATTITUDE TOWARD "COMMERCIAL BASES" IN US DRAFT OUTLINES. US TEAM GAVE SHORT RUNDOWN ON SOVIET VIEWS AS STATED IN MOSCOW TALKS.

5. DANES THEN ASKED THAT, IF IT IS INTENTION TO CONTINUE TWO-AGREEMENT ROAD, WHETHER US WOULD SUBMIT THE ACTUAL TEXT, PARTICULARLY OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT, TO OTHERS PRIOR TO LONDON. HERE AGAIN US WAS PRESSED WHETHER IT INTENDED TO REMAIN WITH TWO AGREEMENT RECOMMENDATION. TO WHICH US REPLIED THAT PURPOSE OF EUROPEAN TRIP WAS TO SEEK VIEWS
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OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS WHICH WE WOULD SERIOUSLY STUDY, BUT CERTAINLY OUR STRONG PRESENT FEELING IS THAT WE WILL STICK WITH TWO AGREEMENT APPROACH. DANES REPLIED THAT THEY WERE CONCERNED ABOUT DELAY THIS WOULD INTRODUCE TO CONFERENCE AND THAT IT WAS US RESPONSIBILITY TO CONVINCE OTHERS THAT US APPROACH WOULD NOT RESULT IN UNDUE DELAY IN CONFERENCE ACHIEVEMENTS. THEY ALSO RECOMMENDED THAT INMARSAT AGREEMENT INCLUDE MORE SPECIFIC OBLIGATIONS ON

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PART OF GOVERNMENTS TO SUPERVISE ENTITIES THAN THOSE
APPEARING IN INTELSAT.

6. REGARDING ACCESS DANES AGREED WITH NON-DISCRIMINATORY
VIEW, AND SAID THAT IN GENERAL THEY FAVORED SIMILAR CHARGES
FOR MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS, BUT FEEL THAT CHARGING DIFFER-
ENTIAL IS NOT REALLY DISCRIMINATORY. ON PROCUREMENT POLICY
THERE WAS SOME DIFFERENCE OF VIEW AMONG DANISH DELEGATION, BUT IN
GENERAL DANES SYMPATHIZE WITH INTEREST OF OTHER EUROPEAN
COUNTRIES IN SOME NATIONAL DIVISION ON SUBCONTRACTS. ONE
VIEW WAS THAT US ALTERNATIVE MIGHT BE MODIFIED BY LANGUAGE
PROVIDING FOR SOME DIVISION OF SUBCONTRACTS PROVIDING IT
DID NOT ADD TO COST. ON POSSIBLE USE OF MARISAT/MAROTS AS
AN INTERIM ARRANGEMENT FOR INMARSAT DANES THOUGHT THIS WAS
QUESTION FOR CONFERENCE TO DECIDE, BUT CAUTIONED AGAINST
BINDING INMARSAT TO MRISAT TECHNICAL PARAMETERS THAT
MIGHT HAMPER FUTURE DEVELOPMENT INMARSAT SYSTEM. ON INPUT
OF SHIP OPERATOR VIEWS TO INMARSAT DANES FAVOR NATIONAL
ADMINISTRATIONS REPRESENTING OWN OPERATORS. THERE WAS
LENGTHY DISCUSSION OF HOW INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING COMMUNITIE
VIEWS MIGHT BE RECOGNIZED, WITH DANES APPARENTLY ACCEPTING
POSITION THAT ORGANIZATIONAL FRAMEWORK SHOULD INCLUDE MECHAN-
ISM WHEREBY INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING COMMUNITY FORMS ITS
RECOMMENDATIONS OUTSIDE INMARSAT ORGANIZATIONS, AND THEN
FORWARDS IT TO INMARSAT FOR CONSIDERATION. REGARDING SIZE
OF SHIP TO BE INCLUDED IN SYSTEM DANES FAVOR SOMETHING LESS
THAN 10,000 TONS, HOPING THAT IN LONG RUN INMARSAT MIGHT
ACCOMMODATE VESSELS AS SMALL AS 500 TONS. FINALLY DANES
FAVOR USE OF MARITIME SATELLITE SYSTEM BY SHIPS IN PORT.

7. ALL IN ALL DANES WERE PLEASANT BUT TOUGH, AND AS NOTED
EARLIER THEY SEEM TO HAVE BEEN IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH NORWEGIANS.
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